

Based on the following Amendments and Remarks, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 21-56, without prejudice, and please add the following new Claims 57-92 as follows:

-- ~~157~~. An apparatus for providing subscription information, comprising:

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a receiver (for receiving a request to receive or pick-up a printed issue of at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, at a retail facility or store pursuant to a subscription, wherein the request contains information regarding the subscription;

a processing device for processing the request, wherein the processing device determines at least one of a status of the subscription and a number of issues of the at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine,

remaining to be fulfilled pursuant to the subscription, and further wherein the processing device generates a message in response to the request, wherein the message contains information regarding an authorization or a denial to provide the printed issue of at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine; and

a transmitter for transmitting the message to a transaction device located at the retail facility or store.

Back
~~2~~¹58. The apparatus of Claim ~~57~~¹, wherein the subscription is an existing subscription, and further wherein the apparatus is a subscription fulfillment processing computer.

~~3~~¹59. The apparatus of Claim ~~57~~¹, wherein the apparatus is at least one of a network computer, an Internet server computer, and a web site server computer.

~~4~~¹60. The apparatus of Claim ~~57~~¹, wherein the apparatus is utilized on or over at least one of the Internet, the World Wide Web, and an intranet.

5/61. The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein the transaction device transmits the request to receive or pick-up the printed issue of at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, to the receiver.

6/62. The apparatus of Claim 61, wherein the request contains at least one of an access code, a personal identification number, and subscription information stored on at least one of an account card, a smart card, a credit card, a charge card, a debit card, and a value card.

7/63. The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein the processing device determines whether the subscription is active or not active.

8/64. The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein the processing device determines at least one of whether any number of issues remain to be fulfilled on the subscription and whether a maximum time period or a duration of the subscription has expired.

9/65. The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein the processing device at least one of records a fulfillment of a delivery of the printed issue of at least one of a

periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, pursuant to the subscription, decreases by one a number of printed issues, remaining to be fulfilled on the subscription, and performs record updating for the subscription account corresponding to the subscription.

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¹⁰~~66~~. The apparatus of Claim ¹~~57~~, wherein the apparatus is utilized to perform subscription fulfillment services for the subscription, wherein the subscription provides a pre-defined number of printed issues of the at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, over a pre-specified time period, wherein the pre-specified time period exceeds a normal time period for receiving all of the pre-defined number of the printed issues of the at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine.

¹¹~~67~~. The apparatus of Claim ¹~~57~~, wherein the retail facility or store is at least one of a retail facility, a store, a retailer, a retail outlet, a retail store, a retail center, a retail location, a retail site, a newsstand, a magazine stand, a point-of-sale location, and a pick-up location.

¹²~~68~~. The apparatus of Claim ¹~~57~~, wherein the apparatus

generates and transmits a second message to at least one of the transaction device and a communication device associated with an individual, wherein the second message contains information regarding at least one of an available subscription, a subscription sale or subscription special, an available new issue, a renewal notice, an extension notice, a termination notice, a subscription creation or initiation notice, a shipment of at least one of a subscription issue, a good, and a service, to a retail facility or store, and an arrival of at least one of a subscription issue, a good, and a service, at a retail facility or store.

¹³~~69~~. The apparatus of Claim ¹~~57~~, wherein the apparatus links the transaction device to a subscription processing computer for facilitating a re-opening or a renewal of the subscription.

¹⁴~~70~~. An apparatus for providing subscription information, comprising:

an input device for inputting information regarding a request to receive or pick-up a printed issue of at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, at a retail

facility or store pursuant to a subscription, wherein the subscription is an existing subscription;

a processing device for processing the information regarding a request, wherein the information regarding a request includes information regarding the subscription, and further wherein the processing device generates a request;

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a transmitter for transmitting the request to a subscription fulfillment computer;

a receiver for receiving a response to the request from the subscription fulfillment computer; and

at least one of a display device for displaying information contained in the response and an output device for outputting information contained in the response,

wherein the processing device processes information contained in the response, wherein the response contains information for authorizing or denying the request to receive or pick-up the printed issue of at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, at the retail facility or store.

~~15~~¹³1. The apparatus of Claim ~~70~~¹⁴, wherein the input device further comprises:

at least one of a keypad and a reading device, wherein the reading device at least one of reads and scans subscription information from at least one of an account card, a credit card, a charge card, a debit card, a value card, and a smart card.

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~~16~~¹⁷2. The apparatus of Claim ~~70~~¹⁴, wherein the output device further comprises:

a printer for printing information contained in the response.

~~17~~¹⁸3. The apparatus of Claim ~~70~~¹⁴, wherein the apparatus is utilized to communicate with a subscription processing computer to at least one of initiate a subscription, renew a subscription, extend a subscription, cancel a subscription, and terminate a subscription.

~~18~~¹⁹4. The apparatus of Claim ~~70~~¹⁴, wherein the apparatus is utilized on or over at least one of the Internet, the World Wide Web, and an intranet.


¹⁹/₅. The apparatus of Claim ¹⁴/₇₀, wherein the request contains at least one of an access code, a personal identification number, and subscription information stored on at least one of an account card, a smart card, a credit card, a charge card, a debit card, and a value card.

Bad ²⁰/₆. The apparatus of Claim ¹⁴/₇₀, wherein the apparatus is utilized to perform subscription fulfillment services for the subscription, wherein the subscription provides a pre-defined number of printed issues of the at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, over a pre-specified time period, wherein the pre-specified time period exceeds a normal time period for receiving all of the pre-defined number of printed issues of the at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine.

²¹/₇. An apparatus for providing subscription information, comprising:

a memory device for storing subscription information, wherein the subscription information includes at least one of information regarding a subscription for a

number of printed issues of at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, a magazine, and information for at least one of creating a subscription and initiating a subscription;

a processing device for processing a request to at least one of create a subscription and initiate a subscription utilizing the information stored in the memory device, wherein the request contains information regarding a request to receive a pre-specified number of printed issues of at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, over a pre-specified time period, wherein the pre-specified time period exceeds a normal time period for receiving all of the pre-specified number of printed issues of the at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, and further wherein the processing device at least one of creates a subscription and initiates a subscription, and further wherein the processing device generates a message containing information regarding the subscription; and

a transmitter for transmitting the message to at least one of a communication device associated with an individual and a transaction device associated with a retail facility or store.

²²/₇₈. The apparatus of Claim ²¹/₇₇, wherein the subscription is flexible in a length of a subscription period.

²³/₇₉. The apparatus of Claim ²¹/₇₇, wherein the request is transmitted from at least one of the communication device and the transaction device.

²⁴/₈₀. The apparatus of Claim ²¹/₇₇, wherein the apparatus is utilized on or over at least one of the Internet, the World Wide Web, and an intranet.

²⁵/₈₁. The apparatus of Claim ²¹/₇₇, wherein the apparatus is linked to a subscription fulfillment computer.

²⁶/₈₂. The apparatus of Claim ²¹/₇₇, wherein the apparatus generates and transmits a second message to at least one of the communication device and the transaction device, wherein the second message contains information regarding at least one of an available subscription, a subscription sale or subscription special, an available new issue, a renewal notice, an extension notice, a termination notice, a subscription creation or initiation notice, a

shipment of at least one of a subscription issue, a good, and a service, to a retail facility or store, and an arrival of at least one of a subscription issue, a good, and a service, at a retail facility or store.

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^{27/}~~83~~. The apparatus of Claim ^{21/}~~77~~, wherein the apparatus receives and processes information for at least one of making a change to the subscription, renewing the subscription, extending a term of the subscription, lengthening the subscription, shortening the subscription, and changing a condition regarding the subscription.

^{28/}~~84~~. The apparatus of Claim ^{21/}~~77~~, wherein the apparatus receives and processes information regarding a change of a retail facility or store from which at least one of a pick-up, a receipt, and a delivery, pursuant to the subscription can be made.

^{29/}~~85~~. The apparatus of Claim ^{21/}~~77~~, wherein the message contains information for authorizing or providing a pick-up or receipt of a first printed issue of the at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, pursuant to the subscription at a time of creation or initiation of the subscription.

³⁰~~86~~. An apparatus for providing subscription information, comprising:

a memory device for storing subscription information, wherein the subscription information includes at least one of information regarding a subscription for printed issues at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, and information for at least one of creating a subscription and initiating a subscription;

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a processing device for processing a request for a subscription utilizing the information stored in the memory device, wherein the request contains information regarding a request to receive a pre-specified number of printed issues of at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, over a pre-specified time period, and a retail facility or store from which the printed issues of the at least one of a periodical, a newspaper, and a magazine, can be picked-up or received, and further wherein the processing device at least one of creates a subscription and initiates a subscription, wherein the processing device generates a message containing information regarding the subscription; and

a transmitter for transmitting the message to at least one of a communication device associated with an individual and a transaction device associated with a retail facility or store.

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87. An apparatus for providing subscription information, comprising:

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a receiver for receiving a request to receive or pick-up a ticket to at least one of a sporting event, an entertainment event, and a performance, at a retail facility or store pursuant to a subscription, wherein the request contains information regarding the subscription;

a processing device for processing the request, wherein the processing device determines at least one of a status of the subscription and a number of tickets to at least one of a sporting event, an entertainment event, and a performance, remaining to be fulfilled pursuant to the subscription, and further wherein the processing device generates a message in response to the request, wherein the message contains information regarding an authorization or a denial to provide the ticket; and

a transmitter for transmitting the message to a transaction device located at the retail facility or store.

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~~88~~. The apparatus of Claim ³¹~~87~~, wherein the request contains at least one of an access code, a personal identification number, and subscription information stored on at least one of an account card, a smart card, a credit card, a charge card, a debit card, and a value card.

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~~89~~. The apparatus of Claim ³¹~~87~~, wherein the processing device at least one of determines whether the subscription is active or not active, determines at least one of whether any number of tickets remain to be fulfilled on the subscription or whether a maximum time period or a duration of the subscription has expired, records a fulfillment of a delivery of the ticket pursuant to the subscription, decreases by one a number of tickets remaining to be fulfilled on the subscription, and performs record updating for the subscription account corresponding to the subscription.

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~~90~~. An apparatus for providing subscription information, comprising:

an input device for inputting information regarding a request to receive or pick-up a ticket to at least one of a sporting event, an entertainment event, and a performance, at a retail facility or store pursuant to a subscription, wherein the subscription is an existing subscription;

But a processing device for processing the information regarding a request, wherein the information regarding a request includes information regarding the subscription, and further wherein the processing device generates a request;

a transmitter for transmitting the request to a subscription fulfillment computer;

a receiver for receiving a response to the request from the subscription fulfillment computer; and

at least one of a display device for displaying information contained in the response and an output device for outputting information contained in the response,

wherein the processing device processes information contained in the response, wherein the response contains

information for authorizing or denying the request to receive or pick-up the ticket to at least one of a sporting event, an entertainment event, and a performance, at the retail facility or store.

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~~91~~. An apparatus for providing subscription information, comprising:

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a memory device for storing subscription information, wherein the subscription information includes at least one of information regarding a subscription for a ticket to at least one of a sporting event, an entertainment event, and a performance, and information for at least one of creating a subscription and initiating a subscription;

a processing device for processing a request to at least one of create a subscription and initiate a subscription utilizing the information stored in the memory device, wherein the request contains information regarding a request to receive a pre-specified number of tickets to at least one of a sporting event, an entertainment event, and a performance, over a pre-specified time period, wherein the pre-specified time period exceeds a normal time period for

receiving all of the pre-specified number of tickets to at least one of a sporting event, an entertainment event, and a performance, and further wherein the processing device at least one of creates a subscription and initiates a subscription, and further wherein the processing device generates a message containing information regarding the subscription; and

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a transmitter for transmitting the message to at least one of a communication device associated with an individual and a transaction device associated with a retail facility or store.

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~~32~~. An apparatus for providing subscription information, comprising:

a memory device for storing subscription information, wherein the subscription information includes at least one of information regarding a subscription for a ticket to at least one of a sporting event, an entertainment event, and a performance, and information for at least one of creating a subscription and initiating a subscription;

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a processing device for processing a request for a subscription utilizing the information stored in the memory device, wherein the request contains information regarding a request to receive a pre-specified number of tickets to at least one of a sporting event, an entertainment event, and a performance, over a pre-specified time period, and a retail facility or store from which the tickets to at least one of a sporting event, an entertainment event, and a performance, can be picked-up or received, and further wherein the processing device at least one of creates a subscription and initiates a subscription, wherein the processing device generates a message containing information regarding the subscription; and

a transmitter for transmitting the message to at least one of a communication device associated with an individual and a transaction device associated with a retail facility or store. --

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Please delete the Abstract of the Disclosure and please substitute therefor the new Abstract of the Disclosure which is attached hereto on a separate sheet.